

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2239

FOR COUNSELOR NIMETZ FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, PGOV, PEPR, CY, US
SUBJECT: NIMETZ VISIT: POSITIONS OF THE TWO CYPRIOT SIDES

REF: NICOSIA 2228

1. IN REFTTEL I DEALT WITH SOME OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE
PUBLIC ASPECT OF YOUR VISIT TO CYPRUS. THIS MESSAGE
OUTLINES WHAT WE EXPECT WILL BE THE ATTITUDES YOU WILL
ENCOUNTER AMONG THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADERSHIP.

2. ON THE GOC SIDE, ESPECIALLY IN THE PERSON OF PRESIDENT
KYPRIANOU, WE EXPECT YOU WILL MEET WITH EXPRESSIONS OF
DISAPPOINTMENT OVER LIFTING OF EMBARGO. GOC HAS DEFINED
U.S. ROLE IN HELPING SOLVE CYPRUS PROBLEM ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY
IN TERMS OF PRESSURE U.S. CAN APPLY ON TURKEY, AND EMBARGO
WAS SYMBOL OF THAT PRESSURE. ON OTHER HAND, GOC TAKES
SOME COMFORT IN CONFERENCE/COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE
ON LIFTING EMBARGO AND MAINTAINS THAT U.S. HAS
ASSUMED ENORMOUS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR JUST SOLUTION
OF CYPRUS PROBLEM WE WOULD EXPECT GOC TO ASK YOU
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WHAT U.S. NOW INTENDS TO DO TO MEET THESE RESPONSIBILITIES.
SPECIFICALLY, GOC WILL PROBABLY INSIST THAT U.S. SHOULD
PRESS TURKEY TO IMPROVE TURKISH SIDE'S GENERAL PROPOSALS FOR
A SETTLEMENT AS WELL AS SPECIFIC OFFER ON VAROSHA. WE EXPECT
GOC WILL RESIST ANY SUGGESTION THAT IT SHOULD SUBMIT FURTHER
PROPOSALS OR SHOULD RETURN TO NEGOTIATING TABLE ON BASIS
OF PRESENT UNACCEPTABLE TURKISH PROPOSALS. WE ALSO EXPECT

GOC WILL TRY TO PERSUADE YOU THAT TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER, MR. DENKTASH, IS NOT TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKISH CYPRIOT OPINION NOR IS HE CAPABLE OF MAKING ANY DECISION ON HIS OWN SINCE HE IS MERELY A TOOL OF GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY. KYPRIANOU MAY RENEW HIS REQUEST FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING A MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT.

2. ON TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE, WE EXPECT THAT MR. DENKTASH WILL BE MILDLY APPRECIATIVE TOWARD U.S. FOR LIFTING EMBARGO, BUT THIS WAS NOT AN ISSUE OF MAJOR DIRECT CONCERN TO THEM; THEIR EFFORTS TOWARD LIFTING EMBARGO WERE PRIMARILY TO BENEFIT TURKEY. DENKTASH, WE BELIEVE, WILL MAINTAIN THAT HIS SIDE ALREADY HAS MADE SWEEPING CONCESSIONS, ESPECIALLY THE VAROSHA OFFER, TO PROMOTE MOVEMENT AND HELP TURKEY AND U.S. IN LIFTING EMBARGO. HE WILL ARGUE THAT GREEK CYPRIOT LEADERSHIP HAS PROVED ITS INTRANSIGENCE BY ABRUPT REJECTION OF EVERY TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSAL. HE PROBABLY WILL CONTEND THAT PROPER U.S. ROLE NOW IS TO CONVINCE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE AND UNSYG WALDHEIM TO RECONVENE TALKS WITHOUT RURTHER DELAY. HE IS LIKELY TO RESIST SUGGESTIONS FOR ANY FURTHER "SWEETENING" OF VAROSHA OFFER OR ANY FURTHER CONCESSIONS ELSEWHERE BEFORE TALKS HAVE BEEN RESUMED. HE MAY SHOW RESENTMENT TOWARD WHAT HE MIGHT REGARD AS AMERICAN PRESSURE ON HIM TO MAKE FURTHER "GIVEAWAYS."

3. IN SUM, YOU WILL BE MEETING TWO STRONG-WILLED, UNCOM-
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PROMISING PARTIES, NEIGHER OF WHICH DISPLAYS ANY GOODWILL TOWARD THE OTHER. HOWEVER WE CAN PLACE SOME HOPE IN DESIRE OF EACH SIDE NOT TO APPEAR INTRANSIGENT AND IN RESTRAINTS IMPOSED ON EACH BY ITS RESPECTIVE METROPOLE. IN THIS REGARD, KYPRIANOU APPEARS TO BE IN A MORE EQUABLE TEMPER SINCE HIS RETURN FROM GREECE, AND WE BELIEVE DENKTASH WILL FOLLOW TURKEY'S LEAD IN POST-EMBARGO EFFORTS TO RESTORE MOMENTUM TOWARD A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. YOUR DISCUSSIONS HERE MIGHT REVEAL AREAS IN WHICH TWO SIDES COULD FIND IT MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS TO PURSUE DISCUSSIONS.
STONE

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